

## Message Text

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71

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSM-03 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 AID-05 /085 W

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R 141444Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3065

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 6339

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, MARR, IS, EG

SUBJECT: GENERAL SHAFIR BACKTRACKS ON VIOLATIONS

REF: TEL AVIV 6290

1. ALL MAJOR ISRAELI PAPERS TODAY REPORT A CLARIFICATION BY GENERAL SHAFIR OF HIS SEPTEMBER 12 BEERSHEBY SPEECH ON EGYPTIAN VIOLATIONS (SEE REFTEL). ACCORDING TO SOME REPORTS SHAFIR'S SPEECH CAUSED A "STORM" AND "EMBARRASSMENT" AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, THE MOD AND GENERAL STAFF. AT ANY RATE, LITTLE TIME WAS WASTED IN PUTTING HIM ON THE AIR TO EXPLAIN HIS APPARENT DISSENT FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S LOW-KEY HANDLING OF EGYPTIAN VIOLATIONS. INTERVIEWED LAST NIGHT ON IDF RADIO, SHAFIR DENIED THAT HE USED THE WORD "SEVERE" IN DESCRIBING THE VIOLATIONS. HE STATED THAT THE "VIOLATIONS...DO NOT ENDANGER THE IDF IN SINAI AND DO NOT OVERSHADOW THE SUM TOTAL OF THE OBSERVANCE OF THE AGREEMENT." HE ADDED THAT THE VIOLATIONS DO NOT ALTER THE FACT THAT IN THE LAST ANALYSIS, THE EGYPTIANS WERE ABIDING BY THE INTERIM AGREEMENT AND THAT "IT WOULD BE RIDICULOUS TO USE THOSE VIOLATIONS AS GROUNDS FOR BREAKING THE AGREEMENT."

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MEANWHILE SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE LIBERAL PARTY OF THE LIKUD

BLOC HAVE CALLED ON MKS MENAHEM BEGIN AND MOSHE NISSIM TO CALL ANOTHER SPECIAL SESSION OF THE KNESSET ON THE QUESTION OF EGYPTIAN VIOLATIONS.

2. COMMENT: SHAFIR, WIDELY CONSIDERED TO BE A CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED GENERAL GUR AS CHIEF OF STAFF, MAY HAVE STUMBLERD INTO THE TEMPEST IN THE COURSE OF REPLYING TO QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE DURING HIS BEERSHEBA SPEECH, WITH HIS REMARKS BEING MISQUOTED OR TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE UNDOUBTEDLY WISHED TO EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT VIOLATIONS AND THE NEED FOR PROMPT RECTIFICATION.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PERSONNEL, PEACE, AGREEMENTS, TREATY VIOLATION, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**To:** STATE  
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